3rd November 1931]

(*f*) The ex-Public Prosecutor, M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur N. Ramaswami Ayyar Avargal, held that office for four terms, viz., twelve years.

The answer to the second part of the question is because he was over 60 years of age.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether there is a Government Order which says that a member of the bar over sixty years should not be employed as a Public Prosecutor ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Yes."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether that applies to the mufassal as well ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" It applies certainly to the mufassal, but I do not know whether it applies to the City of Madras."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know why, if it applies to the mufassal, the Public Prosecutor of Tellicherry was reappointed when he was over sixty years ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" That Government Order was not brought to the attention of the authorities at that time."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Was it not a fact that once before the predecessor of the present Law Member said that there was a Government Order and that it would be applied at the time that appointment was made."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I do not know."

Forests

Disafforestation in Salem district.

* 597 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the reserve forests are which are now under disafforestation in Salem district; and

(*b*) what the forests are which are to be taken up for disafforestation in the near future in the same district?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Mallapuram Reserved Forest and a portion of its extension have recently been disafforested. Proposals for the disafforestation of the remaining extent of 265 acres in the extension are awaited from the Chief Conservator. There are no proposals for the disreservation of any further areas at present.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" To a question of mine, the answer was given that petitions have been received from the residents

of Hosur taluk, with regard to the disafforestation of certain areas, and that they are under consideration. Will the matter be taken up in the near future?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As soon as possible, Sir."

Courtallam waterfalls.

11-30 a.m. * 598 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many waterfalls there are in and near Courtallam (Tinnevelly district) that are used now or can be made use of by the public for bathing purposes;

(*b*) how many are reserved by the Government, for whose use and why;

(*c*) how many permits have been issued so far for (1) men, (2) women and (3) children, for the use of the Chitrani falls in Courtallam and what have been the considerations and merits that have weighed for the grant of such special privileges;

(*d*) whether any fees and conditions have been prescribed for the use of the waterfalls that are reserved, what is the sum, if any, so realized and for what purposes they have been earmarked, if any;

(*e*) what sums the Government have spent during the last five years to improve the amenity by way of easy approach to the falls, provision of safety railings and non-slip concrete paths near the waterfalls and their approaches; and

(*f*) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for assuring the safety and ease of approach in the case of the waterfalls in Courtallam?

A.—(*a*) There are five which can be used for bathing; but the right to bathe was admitted at the time of settlement only in one which is nearest the temple, generally known as 'Courtallam waterfalls.'

(*b*) None; but, as stated above, the public have an admitted right of usage only in respect of one.

(*c*) There is no fall by the name 'Chitrani falls'. If the reference is to the Chittaruvi fall, situated behind the Forest Rest House, the answer is that no permits have been issued for bathing in it.

(*d*) The question does not arise, as no falls have been reserved by Government.

(*e*) Rupees 823–15–0 in March 1928.

(*f*) An Advisory Committee has been formed for the management of the falls with the Collector of Tinnevelly as the President. The main object of this Committee is to improve the bathing facilities and amenities of the falls. There is no scheme now under consideration by the Government for the purposes mentioned.